

Rules of Decorum are observed, and take the voice of the Association on all questions brought before it. Also, a Clerk shall be elected, whose duty it shall be to take correct minutes of the acts of the Association.

Art. 8. No query shall be received for the consideration of the Association until the Church presenting it shall have made an effort to answer it to her satisfaction and failed to do so.

Art. 9. The Association shall have a fund for the support of the same, and which shall be raised by voluntary contributions of the churches, sent by their delegates, which money shall be deposited in the hands of the Treasurer, elected by the Association, who shall be accountable to the association for all money received by him as Treasurer.

Art. 10. The Association shall, in all cases, be governed by a majority of the members present, except in the reception and dismissal of churches, which shall be unanimous.

Art. 11. The Association shall correspond with other Associations as may be agreed on while in session.

Art. 12. It shall be the duty of the Association to appoint a minister to preach the Introductory Sermon, with an alternate, at each succeeding session; also time and place for next Association.

Art. 13. No charge will be received against any church in our Union only when established by a sister church.

Art. 14. This Constitution may be altered or amended at any time by two-thirds of the churches comprising this body.

Art. 15. Minutes to be read, adopted and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the Association finally adjourns.

#### ABSTRACT OF PRINCIPLES.

1. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God and the only rule of faith and practice.

2. We believe that the Scriptures teach there is but one living and true God, that these three persons in this one God, the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit, and this triune God is the only object of all religious worship, and idolatry is an abomination in His sight.

3. We believe that God created man holy and happy; that he sinned and fell from that condition; that by the fall he lost his original righteousness and became both sinful and depraved; and as a natural consequence all his posterity are involved in the consequences of his fall.

4. We believe that man by nature has no power to recover himself from his lost and ruined condition, and that unless God Himself had provided a way of salvation, all must have been ruined and miserable forever, because they have all sinned.

5. We believe that the God has provided a way of salvation and has revealed it to us in the Gospel of His Son; that this way of salvation was adopted in the Eternal Council before the foundation of the world, according to which God saves sinners through the sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth.

6. We believe that fallen man has nothing and can do nothing of himself to recommend him to the favorable notice of the Divine Being, and that all his hope of pardon, sanctification, justification and redemption is derived alone through the merits of Christ.

7. We believe Jesus Christ, the eternal Son of God, is the only mediator between God and man; that He first became our surety and in the fullness of time our sacrifice, and that the only efficacious plea that He makes before the Throne in our behalf is built upon His own all-atoning sacrifice and perfect righteousness before God.

8. We believe that the Holy Spirit, the third person in the adorable Trinity, is the great agent in convincing man of his lost and condemned condition, and in making the gospel plain and acceptable to him.

9. We believe that all who are sanctified by the Spirit are fully justified by the righteousness of Christ, which is in all and upon all then that believe.

10. We believe that all who are called the saints through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth shall be eternally saved.

11. We believe that Christ's churches are to be formed of believers in Christ, who give evidence of change in heart, and

who have been regularly baptized.

12. We believe that the government of the Church is not left in the hands of any one man or number of men distinct from the body, but that it is left to the whole church.

13. We believe that the first day of the week, called the Lord's Day, is sanctified and set apart for the worship of God, and that it is the duty of Christians to abstain on that day from all unnecessary visiting, trifling conversation, of labor, except so much as may be devoted to work of necessity or mercy.

14. We believe that God has appointed the preaching of the Gospel for the edification of the church and the advancement of His Kingdom; that it is the duty of church members to contribute to the support of the ministry of God, as He in His providence, may give them ability.

15. We believe that Jesus Christ has appointed two positive institutions or ordinances to be observed in His churches—viz., Baptism and the Lord's Supper. That Baptism is the emersion in water, in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, and that the believers alone are capable of rightly receiving this ordinance; that baptism precedes the Lord's Supper, and none but regularly ordained ministers have any right to administer them.

### RULES OF DECORUM.

Art. 1. The Association shall be opened by prayer.

2. The Moderator and Clerk shall be chosen by members present by private ballot.

Art. 3. The Moderator shall be considered the judge of order, but any member not satisfied with his decision may appeal, provided the appeal is made on the same day, but at no subsequent time.

Art. 4. The Moderator shall be allowed the same privilege of speaking as other members, but no vote, unless his vote be necessary to decide the question. If he rises to speak he shall call some brother to the chair.

Art. 5. All questions brought before the Association shall be open to discussion, unless withdrawn by the mover or his second. When a subject has been taken up and a reasonable time allowed for discussion, the Moderator shall take the ques-

tion by yeas and nays, and if a call for a division be made, it shall be decided by members rising.

Art. 6. Any member wishing to speak shall arise and address the Moderator. Only one member shall be allowed to speak at a time, who shall not be interrupted while speaking, unless he departs from the subject or makes personal reflections.

Art. 7. No one shall speak more than once upon any subject until all who wish to speak shall have had an opportunity, nor more than twice upon any subject without permission.

Art. 8. Every subject introduced for discussion shall be decided before another is offered, unless it be laid over by motion, with the consent of the mover of the Association.

Art. 9. The names of members shall be called whenever the Association shall direct and absentees marked. Any member wishing to retire shall obtain permission of the Moderator.

Art. 10. The appellation of "Brother" shall be used by the members in addressing each other.

Art. 11. Any member violating the rules shall be subject to be reproved by the Moderator, but only the day the breach shall have been made.

Art. 12. Amendments or alterations may be made to these rules whenever a majority deems it necessary.